



# CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

## FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

**AGENDA DATE:** February 10, 2009

**TO:** Finance Committee

**FROM:** Facilities Division, Public Works Department

**SUBJECT:** Carbon Neutral Goal For City Operations

### RECOMMENDATION:

That Finance Committee review a preliminary financial feasibility plan to achieve carbon neutrality by 2020 for City operations and make a recommendation to Council on proceeding with the greenhouse gas emissions goal.

### DISCUSSION:

On June 24<sup>th</sup> 2008, Council considered a recommendation from the Sustainability Council Committee to achieve carbon neutrality by the year 2020 for greenhouse gas emissions from City operations. Council directed staff to further analyze the goal and present an emissions reduction model and preliminary financial analysis to the Sustainability Council Committee and the Finance Committee. Staff worked with the Sustainability Committee to review emission reduction models and financial estimates. On February 5, 2009, the Committee will review a preliminary feasibility plan to achieve carbon neutrality by 2020.

The preliminary financial feasibility plan recommends potential greenhouse gas reduction strategies for the City's vehicle fleet and facilities using energy conservation, renewable energy generation, and carbon offsets.

A goal of carbon neutrality by 2020 will require further review of applicable regulations, financing options, and renewable energy generation alternatives.

**PREPARED BY:** James S. Dewey, Facilities and Energy Manager/JSD/spm

**SUBMITTED BY:** Christine F. Andersen, Public Works Director

**APPROVED BY:** City Administrator's Office